

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this Application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 5, 6, and 9-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 9-14, 19 and 20 are amended and Claims 7 and 8 are cancelled, all by the present response.

The changes made are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, for example in the claims as originally filed and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Matsunaga et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,434,164, herein "Matsunaga") in view of Jeffries et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 7,065,045, herein "Jefferies"); and Claims 7-16 are objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten.

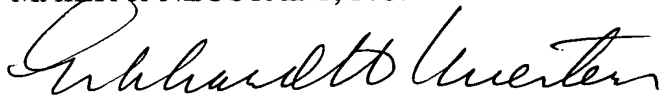
Initially, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the early indication of the allowable subject matter in Claims 7-16. In response, Claims 7 and 8 are cancelled and the allowable features found therein have been incorporated into independent Claims 1, 19 and 2, 20, respectively.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that amended Claims 1, 2, 19 and 20 and claims depending therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 06/04)

I:\ATTY\JL\219465US\219465US_AM(9.18.2006).DOC